IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BENSON et al

Serial No.:

10/716,856

Filing Date:

11/19/2003

Title:

DATA CORRUPTION AVOIDANCE ON A

BACKPLANE BUS ADAPTED TO RECEIVE BUS CONTROLLER CARDS OF DIFFERENT TYPES

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Attorney Docket No.: 10003436-1

P.03

Examiner:

AUVE

Group Art Unit:

2111

COMMENTS ON THE EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Dear Sir:

The Applicants acknowledge that the Examiner has noted reasons for allowance. Applicants do not disagree that the indicated claims are allowable. Instead, Applicants wish to note the following.

Each claim is independently allowable because it is both novel and non-obvious in view of the art of record. Applicants understand that any paraphrasing in the Examiner's reasons for allowance is not meant to suggest that all claims are allowable for the same reason. The claims may employ different words and phrases and any attempt to characterize the Examiner's wording as suggesting such sameness among independent claim sets would be unreasonable.

It is Applicants' further understanding that the Examiner's paraphrasing is not an attempt to characterize, interpret or limit the claims. Applicants understand that the Examiner's paraphrasing has been done as an expedient for the purposes of calling to mind certain language of corresponding features some or all of which may be present in the other claims. It is to be recalled that patentability considers each claim separately and as a whole on the merits of what the given claim recites.

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Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application; the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact T. Grant Ritz, Reg. No. 39,819 at 970-898-0697.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2-8-6

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